

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 6 are currently amended. Claim 2 is currently cancelled. The now pending claims in the application in accord with 37 CFR 1.121, as revised, are set forth above.

No new matter has been introduced by virtue of the amendments made herein. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request their entry. In view of the amendments made herein and the remarks below, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the April 19, 2005 office action.

Rejection under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 1-13 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner states that

Without prejudice, and solely in order to expedite the prosecution of the subject application, applicants have amended claims 1 and 6 by amending the definitions of R⁴ and of the monohydric and dihydric alcohols used in the subject application.

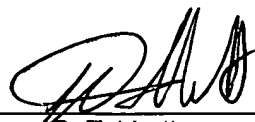
The Examiner also appears to take issue with an alleged lack of defined relationship between the alcohols and the compound of formula I in the claims. Applicants are not aware of any such requirement. Further, applicants respectfully submit that if any such requirement for an explanation of how the alcohol(s) reacts to the compound of formula I to form the compound of formula II exists, it is clearly explained in the specification (see pages 3-5 of the specification).

In view of the amendments set forth herein and remarks above, applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, is rendered moot, and should be withdrawn. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are fully allowable, and solicit the issuance of a notice to such effect. If a telephone interview is deemed to be helpful to expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

Respectfully submitted,

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